

Serial No. 10/043,224

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 has been objected to due to an informality noted by the Examiner. In response, Applicants have amended claim 5 to correct the noted informality. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner's objection to this informality be withdrawn. Further, this claim amendment raises no new issues.

Claims 1-3, 6, 13 and 17 have been rejected under §102(b) as being anticipated by Haupt. Applicants have canceled these rejected claims without prejudice or disclaimer and without commenting on or addressing the merits of the Examiner's rejection. Applicants explicitly reserve the right to file a continuation application on these claims at any time during the pendency of the present application.

Claim 12 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Haupt in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). Applicants have canceled this rejected claim without prejudice or disclaimer and without commenting on or addressing the merits of the Examiner's rejection. Applicants explicitly reserve the right to file a continuation application on this claim at any time during the pendency of the present application.

The Examiner has allowed claims 7-11 and has further indicated that claims 4, 5 and 14-16 contain allowable subject matter. The allowance of claims 7-11 and the indication that claims 4, 5 and 14-16 contain allowable subject matter is noted and appreciated. In response, Applicants have amended claim 4 into independent form, have amended claim 5 to depend on claim 4, and have amended claim 14 into independent form, with claims 15 and 16 depending on claim 14.

Serial No. 10/043,224

Therefore, as rejected claims 1-3, 6, 12, 13 and 17 have been canceled, claims 7-11 have been allowed, and claims 4, 5 and 14-16 are now in allowable form, the present application is now in condition for allowance. A prompt notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

A Request for a two-month extension of time and the requisite extension fee are being submitted concurrently herewith. Although no additional fees are believed to be due, permission is given to charge any unanticipated fees to Deposit Account 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



David G. Posz
Reg. No. 37,701

DGP

Posz & Bethards, PLC
11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 10
Reston, VA 20190
(703) 707-9110
Customer No. 23400

OFFICIAL

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 06 2003